

BRIEF ON THE ORIENTAL SITUATION IN BRITISH  
COLUMBIA IN THE YEAR 1938.

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Submitted by Halford D. Wilson and  
Harry J. DeGraves:

Aldermen of the City of Vancouver, B.C.

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H.L. Keenlyside, Esq.,  
Chairman, Board of Review,  
Canadian Immigration Office,  
VANCOUVER, B. C.

Sir:-

As requested at the time of our attendance before your Board of Review on March 24th, 1938, the following facts are submitted in support of our contention that the Oriental situation in British Columbia is vitally affecting the welfare of not only British Columbia, but the whole Dominion of Canada.

This submission is made with a view to arriving at a solution of a national problem on a basis of goodwill, and fair to those immigrants of Oriental extraction who have been permitted to become legally domiciled in our Dominion, to their children born in this Country and recognized as Canadian citizens, but also fair to the white population of our Dominion.

We submit that no racial antagonism need be engendered by a free and open submission of the effect of our immigration laws, past and present, and the facts here presented are set forth dispassionately to ensure a settlement of a problem which can and must be dealt with sooner or later. It is our firm belief that while agreement is possible at the present time, procrastination will only increase the difficulties which are all too apparent.

We submit that the matter can best be dealt with under the following headings:-

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1. IMMIGRANTS LEGALLY ADMITTED, WHETHER SINCE  
NATURALIZED OR NOT.
2. CANADIAN-BORN ORIENTALS.
3. OCCUPATIONAL PURSUITS BY INDUSTRIES.
4. EDUCATIONAL PROBLEMS OCCASIONED BY  
ORIENTAL POPULATION.

Following the above procedure, we submit:-

(1) IMMIGRANTS LEGALLY ADMITTED.

Apparently recognizing from the first the difficulty of assimilation of Oriental peoples into a white man's country, the laws permitting entry have carried restrictions to prevent a high ratio of Oriental residents to white residents.

In regard to the Dominion as a whole, these safeguards have proved satisfactory in that the total Oriental population is a very small percentage of the total population of Canada, but insofar as British Columbia is concerned the concentration of Orientals in this one Province has resulted in the very conditions which the immigration laws sought to avoid.

The result to-day is that in British Columbia we have a group difficult of assimilation into full Canadian citizenship, yet in almost virtual control of the Fishing Industry, the small fruits, market gardening, and greenhouse sections of the farming industry, and the retail sales of fruits and vegetables.

The national training of these immigrants, in comparison with the training of our own youth, enables them by the acceptance of a lower standard of living to become unfair competition to our own nationals. We do not for one minute wish to convey the impression that their standard of living is below that of all our white population, but it cannot be denied that the proportion of income spent by the Oriental on rent, food, and clothing, the three basic necessities of existence, plus luxury expenditures, are considerably lower as a total group taken on a per capita basis, than that of the white population on a per capita basis. Further the contribution made by the Oriental population to the cost of Government by means of land, income, and all indirect taxation is lower per capita than the per capita white population. While drawing the same benefit from parks, roads, fire and police protection, their concentration in houses of low assessable value and on land of low assessment creates a density of population with a paucity of revenue, while residence on fishing boats gives almost entire immunity from taxation.

Our Solution to the Above:

The immediate setting of a quota for Oriental races, such quota to be the percentage ratio borne by the present population of each national group to the total population of this Dominion. That no immigrant be accepted in such national groups if such entry will increase the ratio of that national group beyond the proposed basic percentage.

That all Orientals be compelled to register and be provided with passports, such passport to have both photograph and finger prints thereon. That enforcement of the Vital Statistics Acts be followed up and all Oriental children on registration to have recorded as a protection of their right to residence in Canada, their finger print, or foot print, in addition to other pertinent data demanded.

That concealment of an alien illegally in Canada be made a criminal offence, and where the guilty party is not a Canadian National the penalty be deportation.

That all aliens admitted to Canada be required to carry a passport so long as they shall remain in Canada, such passport to have photograph and finger print indention, and to be carried at all times, and only surrendered in exchange for naturalization papers.

That arrangements be entered into with the Oriental population to permit transfer of part of the Oriental population to other Provinces of the Dominion as occupational pursuits in those other Provinces permit, such agreement to limit the racial populations in British Columbia to that number now registered as resident until the population of British Columbia shall have reached one million and a half people when such fixed number may be increased by agreement.

That right of re-entry into Canada of Orientals who have left Canada, whether born in Canada or not, be limited to January 1st, 1940, except in the case of those Japanese now legally resident here who desire to secure leave of absence in the future, in which case they shall only be entitled to re-entry if they have secured a passport with photograph and finger-print identification.

The question of allegiance of Orientals born outside Canada, but now resident here should be definitely established. That residence in Canada in excess of two years shall require a binding oath of allegiance, without any reservations whatsoever, to agree to subject themselves to conscription by the state in case of war or emergency. In the event of failure to comply with this clause, arrangements to be made to leave Canada within an agreed time.

That Canadian-born or naturalized citizens of Japanese racial origin be compelled to renounce Japanese citizenship. It is well-known that the vast majority of Japanese Canadians are registered with the Japanese Consul, and thus given the status of a Japanese citizen. If is apparent from the foregoing that Canadian citizenship alone does not satisfy the Japanese Canadian, and it is submitted that dual citizenship prevents assimilation and inspires a feeling of mistrust and suspicion amongst Canadians, concerning the loyalty of Japanese born and resident in Canada.

That no National of any country, having been accepted as an immigrant shall be entitled to re-entry to the Dominion if he left the Dominion and served in the Military, Naval, Air or intelligence services of his country of origin, and further that any Canadian accepting service in the military, naval, air or intelligence service of a Foreign Power

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thereby relinquishes all rights and privileges of Canadian citizenship, and shall make application for re-entry into Canada as a citizen of the power in whose service he was employed.

That Orientals be permitted to own or lease land, engage in commerce only to the same extent as is permitted a Canadian resident of the land of his or her national origin.

That all immigrants shall be required to attend classes in their place of domicile, or if not practical there should be a correspondence course, and in order to remain in the country must qualify on a certain minimum standard of requirements within a reasonable period, these to be based on minimum speaking, reading or writing of the English language, knowledge of responsibility and obligations of Canadian citizenship. No illiterate in the language of his own country to be admitted.

No Oriental, (or other immigrant for that matter) to be permitted to contract his services for long term service, over and above a month to month basis without compulsory renewable clause.

Exceptions to the proposed regulations above suggested to be permitted in accordance with past usage to members of the diplomatic service, trade envoys, or commercial representatives permitted to enter as such and to remain only so long as so engaged.

## (2) CANADIAN-BORN ORIENTALS.

It is submitted that having been born in this country these people are entitled to fair and equitable treatment and to an opportunity to fill a place in the life of the Country and to accept the full obligations of Canadian citizenship.

Two courses only appear open to us, (a) a callous disregard of the rights of the individuals born in this country of Oriental parents, or, (b) alternatively, a planned programme of opportunity and responsibility.

The contact of years in our Canadian educational institutions, with the consequent adoption of our customs and habits fits the Canadian-born Oriental for good Canadian citizenship, and an equality of opportunity could undoubtedly be worked out by a joint committee representing the Dominion and Provincial Governments and the Canadian-born Oriental.

Compulsory subjects in our school curriculums of biology and health would be of inestimable value to all pupils.

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Reasonable opportunity in all pursuits to be open to Canadian-born Orientals, but no industry or pursuit, unless of minor importance and employing less than one hundred people in the Province to be permitted to pass into the control of Orientals, or of our own nationals in the employ or control of Orientals.

That Canadian-born Orientals on reaching the age of twenty-one be called upon to elect under oath their choice of allegiance.

That fishery licenses, entailing as they do the operators' intimate knowledge of our coastal waters, be granted only to Canadian citizens, and to include naturalized citizens and Canadian-born Orientals who have elected Canadian allegiance.

That land ownership or lease, and ownership of natural resources be permitted Canadian-born Orientals only so long as used for their own benefit and not for the benefit of any one or more non-Nationals of Canada.

That the question of the possibility of the complete assimilation of Canadian-born Orientals into the life of the Dominion be a matter of continuous study by research students of the University of British Columbia, and that the Federal and Provincial Governments provide the necessary funds for such research; further at least twenty per cent of students engaged in such research shall be Canadian-born Orientals.

That residence in the Orient for a period of three years or more except under permit of the Dominion Government individually issued, or for study at a recognized Oriental University, or as Commercial representative of Canadian Industry trading in the Oriental markets, shall be considered prima facie evidence of relinquishment of Canadian citizenship by Canadian-born Orientals.

### (3) OCCUPATIONAL PURSUITS BY INDUSTRIES:

While the 1931 census was the last official Government Census, the Vancouver Province newspaper on January 3rd, 1938, reports recent investigations indicate a Japanese population of 30,000 and a Chinese population of 22,000 in British Columbia.

Seven articles from the "Vancouver Daily Province" - "Orientals in B.C.", by Bruce Hutchinson, based on data gathered at first hand by Dr. W.A. Carrothers, Chairman of the Provincial Economic Council, in a private capacity, for a book to be published this year are appended hereto. The closing lines of the first article are particularly significant:

"FROM NOW ON, WHATEVER IS DONE ABOUT IMMIGRATION, BRITISH COLUMBIA FACES AN EVER-INCREASING ORIENTAL POPULATION".

Article three indicates that in competition with white Canadians fifty new Japanese workers, male and female, will enter the competitive labour market in British Columbia every month this year, during the year it is estimated competition in the labour market by Chinese will decrease by ninety-two (92) males, but increase by eight females.

Article four cites the following details in regard to occupation pursuits:

	<u>CHINESE</u>	<u>JAPANESE</u>
Fishing	---	19%
Farmers and Farm Labourers	18%	19%
Personal Service, Homes, Boarding-Houses, Hotels, Restaurants, etc.	22%	10%
Commercial activities, own business.	8%	5%
Unskilled Labour, Common Labour in Mines, Lumbering, Railways, etc.	52%	25%
Lumber, Pulp & Paper.	---	22%

The seventh article is particularly commended to your attention as it so clearly demonstrates the tendency to control more and more of the primary resources and necessities of the Province.

Industries or occupations controller or in danger of control by Orientals:

	<u>CHINESE</u>	<u>JAPANESE</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>ORIENTAL CONTROL</u>
Vancouver Is. Market Gardens	75%		75%	
B. C. Mainland Mkt. Gardens	80%		80%	
Greenhouse space		50.15%	50.15%	
Fishing license	18%		18%	
Fish Salteries	70%		70%	
Small Fruit Farming	45%		45%	
				control of marketing.

Recent known Japanese acquisitions:

Copper property	Vancouver Island
Iron Deposits	Queen Charlotte Islands
Logging Camps	Vancouver Island
Pulp Timber	Vancouver Island

Assessed Value of Land owned by Orientals ..... \$1,250,000.00

Natural Resources acquired through Companies having White Canadian directors ..... ??????? Unknown.

Membership of the Consolidated Cod Fishermen's Association for the year 1937, appended. It will be noted that Japanese members far outnumber the white members.

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The price control methods of this Association is a matter which has been the subject of a Vancouver City Council investigation.

The Japanese penetration of the Fishing Industry has been the subject of much able comment in the Dominion House of Parliament by:

Mr. Tom Reid, M.P., for New Westminster  
and Mr. A.W. Neill, M.P., for Comox-Alberni

White fishermen can instance numerous cases of abuse at the hands of Japanese when white fishermen are in the minority in any district. The sworn deposition of Jack Alder dealing with malicious damage is a sample of interference which is all too common.

Business Licenses Issued to Orientals in Vancouver City.

With characteristic racial patience the Oriental is gradually becoming a dominant factor in the business activity of Vancouver. Particular attention is directed to the increase in City licenses issued to Orientals during the past ten years, for example:

<u>BUSINESS</u>	<u>JAPANESE</u>		<u>CHINESE</u>	
	<u>1927 - 1937</u>		<u>1927 - 1937</u>	
Candy, Fruit	58	80	18	16
Cleaners & Dyers	17	115	6	8
Dressmakers	7	44	--	--
Fish Dealers	6	18	2	2
Grocers	56	110	68	27
Green Grocers	0	21	60	118
Hawkers & Pedlars	1	4	75	157
Lodging Houses	79	129	11	11
Wholesale	19	23	13	14

Total Number of Licenses Issued to:

	<u>JAPANESE</u>	<u>CHINESE</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
In 1927	459	478	937
In 1937	795	644	1,439
1937	336	712	1,048
	827	1,360	2,187
	459	478	937

The following are the percentage increases in the ten-year period:

Japanese 74%  
Chinese 34.7%

Total Percentage Increase - 53.5%

60% in 12 yrs.



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Further evidence of the penetration of the Oriental into the commercial business of the City is shown below by giving a few examples of the licenses held by Orientals in relation to the total number of licenses issued to the trade:

CLASSIFICATION	TOTAL NO. OF 1937 LICENSES	JAPANESE		CHINESE		% OF ORIENTALS TO TOTAL
		No.	% to Total.	No.	% to Total	
Boat Builders	14	4	28.571	--	--	28.571 - 36
Cleaners & Dyers	230	115	50.000	8	3.478	53.478 54
Dressmakers	83	44	53.012	--	--	53.012 54
Fish Dealers	45	18	40.000	2	4.444	44.444 45
Green Grocers	152	21	13.816	118	77.632	91.448 20
Grocers	691	110	15.919	27	3.907	19.826
Laundry Offices	48	3	6.250	40	83.333	89.583
Laundries	42	1	2.381	26	61.905	64.286
Poultry	21	1	4.762	7	33.333	38.095
Tailors	98	7	7.143	22	22.449	29.592
Hawkers & Peddlers	291	4	1.375	157	53.951	55.326

We append hereto, two statements prepared by the License Inspector, City of Vancouver, showing the above information segregated according to business carried on.

The competition of these licenses is in many cases unfair competition. Large families permit evasion of the Hours of Work Act and the regulations of the B.C. Department of Labour under and by virtue of the Provisions of the Minimum Wage Act are thus made of non-effect inasmuch as many of these businesses operate as a family combine. Evasions of our laws governing sales on Sunday are flagrant and it would entail considerable staff and expense to stamp out these evasions; the standard of living and hours worked by these operators are such that they constitute unfair competition from every angle.

Small Fruits. The seventh article "Orientals in B.C." shows the Japanese controlling 45% of the small fruit farming of the Province. This forty-five percent control in the entire Province is so preponderant in the Fraser Valley area, adjacent to the Vancouver-New Westminster market, practically half the entire British Columbia market, that the process of peaceful penetration in this area during the last twenty years has ousted the white fruit farmers from the control of the industry. A sight not to be forgotten in this berry growing area is the entire Japanese family of father, mother, children of school age, some hardly of school age, engaged in the work of the farm, especially during the picking season.

Japanese female farm labour in harvesting, because of its efficiency, and low rate of pay, is driving white labour from this activity. Sworn deposition of Cline A. Hoggard, Farmer of Sea Island, B.C. is appended in support of this contention. Only those who have engaged in potato picking



know the fatiguing nature of this work on the strongest constitutions. No white man can maintain a reasonable standard of living and compete on a basis of less than forty cents per hour.

The foregoing facts clearly indicate an ever-increasing range of activities; it being apparent that in whatever line of endeavour entry is made gradual progress is made until the control passes to Oriental hands. It would not require much stretch of the imagination to conceive of a British Columbia where natural resources and entire primary products of the soil passed within the next twenty to thirty years to Oriental hands by the steady process of infiltration.

#### (4) EDUCATIONAL PROBLEMS OCCASIONED BY ORIENTAL POPULATION.

Education is financially supported in British Columbia by two main sources:

- (1) Land taxation the local support;
- (2) Provincial Aid from Consolidated Revenue Funds.

In view of the foregoing where the cost to a local district is low it does not mean that Oriental children are only a drain upon the tax-paying white population of that area, but are also a drain upon the entire white population of the Province.

We submit hereunder details from one City and two Municipal Districts to indicate this problem. The same problem exists throughout the Province wherever the Oriental has settled.

The following figures taken from the 66th Annual Report of the Public Schools of B. C. shows the Provincial situation:

TOTAL PROVINCIAL ENROLLMENT	TOTAL		TOTAL ALL FOR- EIGN PARENTAGE	
	JAPANESE	CHINESE	JAPANESE	CHINESE
118,431	5,499	1,447		20,435

From the above it will be noted that:-

Japanese children represent 4.6% of total school population.  
Japanese children represent 26.8% of total children of foreign parentage.

Cost per pupil on total enrollment is shown as \$76.25 per year.

Total cost of educating 5,499 Japanese on  
above basis ..... \$419,298.75  
Total cost of educating 1,447 Chinese on  
above basis ..... \$110,333.75

RICHMOND MUNICIPALITY.

A farming community in which is also situated the town of Steveston, a large salmon fishing centre, with canneries in this town and at other points on the waterfront. The area is part of the Delta of the Fraser River.

Dominion Bureau of Statistics show population figures as follows:-

POPULATION OF LULU ISLAND (Less  
Queensborough, suburb of New Westminster)

Nationality	1911	1921	1931	% increase 1931 over 1911
Japanese .....	843	1929	2811	240%
Chinese .....	562	352	451	20% decrease
Whites or others...	1707	2545	4920	188%

This clearly indicates the potential outnumbering of whites in this area.

Total school population 1937, -- 1,801 of which Japanese number 607. Percentage of Japanese children to total enrollment --33.7%.

School Taxes levied 1937 in Richmond ..... \$50,482.19  
 School Taxes levied against Japanese ..... \$1,771.  
 Voluntary contribution by Japanese ..... \$2,500.

Percentage of total school taxes paid by Japanese .... 8.5%

Thus the white population with 66.3% of the total enrollment are paying the cost of 91.5%

In addition to the foregoing, the Provincial Government pays to the Municipality a grant for Education at \$35,286.11 out of the revenues of the Province as a whole and almost entirely contributed by the white population.

It is interesting to note that of the total tax levy in Richmond by General Rates amounting to \$137,034.83, the Japanese property owners pay \$4,551.00 or only 3.3% of the total land tax, and yet are able to enjoy all the advantages made possible by a White tax-paying Community.

Appended hereto is letter dated March 25th, 1938, from the Clerk of the Municipal Council of Richmond, together with Balance Sheet and Supporting Statements as at December 31st, 1937.

DISTRICT OF MAPLE RIDGE.

Inland from Vancouver, B.C., about twenty-five miles, on the north bank of the Fraser River. -- Small Fruit Aread.

Total School Population, 1262; of which Japanese number 32.1%  
 Total School Levy, \$31,736.23; of which Japanese levy is 11.05%

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This is a duplication of the situation at Richmond but is not as aggravated a situation as at Richmond as there is no large Japanese fishing population living on boats or in shacks constructed on piles driven into the river bottom.

Letter dated April 2nd, 1938, from the Clerk of the Municipal Council is appended hereto with additional details.

We would particularly draw your attention to his remarks regarding the low value of the building improvements made by the Japanese owners, also his remarks regarding attendance at Japanese schools after regular school hours. We will present this item later in our brief.

#### CITY OF VANCOUVER.

In this, the largest City of the Province, with approximately thirty-five per cent of the total Provincial population resident therein the Japanese and Chinese in the main live in districts almost entirely Oriental in population. The Japanese are in two main Districts. Along the waterfront of Burrard Inlet, East of Main Street, with the Chinese section almost immediately South, but extending westerly three blocks from Main Street as well as Easterly therefrom. The Japanese have populated to a considerable extent the area adjoining the south shore of False Creek East and West of Granville Street Bridge.

Attached is a statement showing the trend in the Oriental School population in Vancouver since 1928-29 to 1936-37.

From this you will note that while the Chinese school enrollment has increased from 1.5% to 1.8% of the total enrollment, the Hindus from .05% to .15% the Japanese have increased from 3.5% to 5.5% of the total school enrollment.

In percentages this means that the Chinese ratio has increased by 20% while the Japanese ratio has increased by 57.1%. The Hindus have a ratio percentage increase of 200% caused by a total increase in enrollment of 38 pupils. At present they are not a vital factor.

We would particularly stress this increasing enrollment as it was during a period of depression when the tendency of youth to remain in school for longer terms and in the higher grades was most marked; in other words while the ratio of white pupils to total population was increasing, the Japanese enrollment not only kept pace with this depression condition, but increased the percentage ratio of enrollment in eight short years by 57.1%. A continuation of this increase for a further thirty-two years would mean approximately 8.6% of the total Vancouver School enrollment in 1944-45 would be Japanese, 13.3% in 1952-53, 20.8% in 1960-61, and 31.5% in 1968-69.

In no more graphic way can we portray the effects of the present tendency than to indicate this situation, which may arise in Vancouver, the third largest City of the Dominion, viz. the possibility of one-third of the school population of this City being Japanese thirty years from now.

Strathcona School in Vancouver, a modern elementary school, equipped with Auditorium and Gymnasium, is the largest elementary school in the City.

It enrolls -- total pupils --		1445	% of total enrolled (Nearest 1%)
Japanese	.....	674	47%
Chinese	.....	328	23%
Others (Mostly of Foreign Parentage)		443	30%

In one of the best residential districts of Vancouver there are enrolled in Kerrisdale elementary school 18 Japanese, in Point Grey Junior High School 6 Japanese, and in Magee High School, 3 Japanese. These are not all the Orientals in this School, but we make this point to demonstrate the conditions under which this Japanese population lives, while enjoying the best educational facilities of the City at the expense of the white population. All these children referred to above live in the area known as the Celtic Cannery area, at the foot of Blenheim Street, and we attach a photograph of the residences they occupy.

Educational costs in the City of Vancouver average \$91.00 per pupil per year, all of which, except \$12.00 per annum per pupil allowed by the Provincial Government in 1937 is borne by land and improvement taxation. These twenty-seven pupils thus cost the City of Vancouver approximately \$2,133.00 and the Provincial taxpayers as a whole a further \$324.00.

The land and improvement taxes paid to the City of Vancouver for the land and buildings they occupy as residences amounts to approximately \$333.73 in 1938.

The period of free education is grades 1 to 12, compulsory education being from age 7 to 15.

The average cost of 12 years' education, from grades 1 to 12 in Vancouver City is \$1,000.00. With a constantly increasing ratio of Orientals who, in a great majority of cases are not paying taxes of any appreciable amount, the burden on the white population of the cost of education of Orientals alone is unjust, and some method should be devised to ensure that the Oriental population assume the educational costs of their own children.

If the present rate of increase in Oriental school population continues it is only too apparent from the foregoing figures the ultimate burden which will be thrust on white taxpayers.

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Wherever Japanese children are numerous it is the custom for the Japanese community to conduct Japanese language schools, usually held daily and commencing after the close of the public day schools.

In this connection I would point out that pupils in our public schools are not permitted to take courses in the night schools except by special individual permits.

It is felt by educationists that the present load undertaken by the pupils in our public schools is all that they should have to carry if they are to have the opportunity for recreation and other activities necessary to the growing child.

One can understand the natural desire of Foreign born parents to have their children receive some tuition in their national religion and possibly in the parents' language, and the traditions of their country of origin, but we believe that these schools conducted daily are not in the interests of the children themselves and to some extent nullify the efforts of our educational authorities to absorb these children into the Canadian national life. It is recommended that methods be devised to regulate the number of hours which may be spent by pupils in our public schools in the racial and religious schools operated for their benefit by their parents who apparently can afford to support such extra activity, but do not make an adequate contribution to the public education of their children.

It is our belief that when the children reach their teens there is a certain amount of revolt against the national school in addition to the public school, but the veneration of parents which is part of Oriental life ensures continuous attendance.

We believe that these schools are a menace to Canadian national life, and are an indication of an unwillingness to assist in the assimilation of these national-ais into our citizenship.

We understand that the Principals of our Commercial and other High Schools in Vancouver can certify to many instances of oriental youths, born and educated through the Vancouver schools leaving High School after graduation and proceeding immediately to the country of their racial origin to enter the commercial life, having attained their training at the expense of Canadians.

Students permitted to enter Canada.

The status of student should be clearly defined to limit entry to bona fide university students from the Orient entering our universities on a student's permit only for post graduate study.

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VITAL STATISTICS

The figures set out below have been obtained from the Vancouver Health Department:

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BIRTHS

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Rates per 1,000 Population</u>
General	2,035	1,916	3,951	11.18
Japanese	119	126	245	28.75
Chinese	29	34	63	8.11

NATURAL INCREASE

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Rates per 1,000 Population</u>
General			1,159	4.57
Japanese			172	20.18
Chinese (decrease)			46	5.92

It will be noted that in the case of the Chinese there is a decided decrease in population each year, this may be attributed to the Immigration policy adopted in respect to Chinese by our Federal Government some years ago.

Owing to the fecundity of the Japanese race as shown in the table above, British Columbians are faced with a problem that commands an immediate solution by the powers dealing with such matters.

MARRIAGES.

Table 33 and 34 of the Sixty-fifth report of Vital Statistics of the Province of British Columbia for the year 1936 discloses the fact that out of an approximate Japanese population of 30,000 there were only Sixty-five registered marriages.

The number of marriages registered is so out of line with the average for the white population that it tends to support the argument that Japanese do not abide by the law requiring registration of all Births and Marriages.



NATIONAL DEFENCE.

We do not wish to stress this matter although it is vital to Canada as a nation, and especially to British Columbia with its long coast line on the Pacific, as such. Such comments are usually conducted in such a manner as to lead to a spirit of recrimination, however we cannot leave the subject without drawing attention to the danger to British Columbia in the event of hostilities with an Oriental Power or the Ally of an Oriental power from the doubtful loyalty to our country in such circumstances of such a large percentage of our population, which danger increases as the percentage ratio of the Oriental races increases.

Attached hereto are reports showing the official 1931 census as it relates to Orientals, a report of Oriental immigration from the year 1930 to 1936, and a statement of births, and ratios of natural increase for the years 1936 and 1937.

These figures clearly portray the menace faced by the white population unless immediate and effective action is taken to control the percentage ratio of Orientals in the Dominion, and more particularly in this Western Province in view of the facts herein adduced.

We are unable to see any effects in carrying out the ideas herein expressed which should lead the Imperial Japanese Government to protest on the grounds of discrimination. We seek no more rights to deal with our own fireside and those gathered round it than does that Government, in fact our attitude of tolerance and forbearance is the cause of our present difficulty. In this connection we close with quotation from the remarks of Sir Claude MacDonald, K.C.B., K.C.M.G., His Britannic Majesty's Ambassador to Tokio, 1902-1912. --

"In Japan there is no such thing as reciprocity -- a foreigner has no rights in Japan -- although rights are nominally conceded to him by treaty. For example, a foreigner cannot become naturalized as a Japanese except by marriage into a Japanese family and the adoption of a Japanese name. Yet Japan demands from other countries the right of naturalization for her sons. No foreigner can own land in Japan and it has been repeatedly stated both in the Diet and out of it, that such foreign ownership 'WOULD BE A POLLUTION OF JAPANESE SOIL'".

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The foregoing and the material attached hereto are respectfully submitted in the hope that it will be of some assistance to you in obtaining a proper understanding of the Oriental problem in British Columbia today.

Yours truly,

HALFORD D. WILSON

HARRY J. DEGRAVES



DOCUMENTS APPENDED HERETO:-

- (1) Articles "The Oriental in B.C." by Bruce Hutchinson
- (2) Statements prepared by City License Inspector
- (3) Membership List, Consolidated Cod Fishermen's Assn.
- (4) Deposition by Jack Alder (Fisherman)
- (5) Deposition by Cline A. Hoggard (Farmer)
- (6) Letter from Municipal Clerk of Richmond.
- (7) Letter from Municipal Clerk of Maple Ridge.
- (8) Letter from Assessment Office, City of Vancouver,  
re Celtic Cannery.
- (9) Photographs of typical Japanese dwellings.
- (10) Copy of Report "White Canada Research Committee"  
(1938).
- (11) Trend of Oriental School population.
- (12) Average Catch of Cod fishermen.

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